

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

4. (amended) A method for activating an imidazoline receptor expressed in a cell comprising contacting said cell with imidazoleacetic acid-ribotide.

5. (amended) A method for activating an imidazoline receptor expressed in a cell comprising contacting said cell with imidazoleacetic acid-riboside.

6. (amended) A method for activating an imidazoline receptor expressed in a cell comprising contacting said receptor with imidazoleacetic acid-ribotide or imidazoleacetic acid-riboside congener.

Please add the following new claims:

--17. (New) The method of claim 4, 5 or 6 wherein the methylene group is substituted for the oxygen atom that links the 5' carbon to the phosphate atom in the imidazoleacetic acid-ribotide.

18. (New) The method of claim 4, 5 or 6 wherein the imidazoleacetic acid-ribotide is a 2' or 3' deoxy-IAA-RP.

19. (New) The method of claim 4, 5 or 6 wherein the imidazoleacetic acid-ribotide is a carboxy-methyl or carboxy-ethyl ester of IAA-RP.

20. (New) The method of claim 4, 5, or 6 wherein furan is linked to the number 2 carbon atom of the imadazole ring.

21. (New) The method of claim 4, 5, or 6 wherein furan is linked to the nitrogen closest to the methylene-carboxy side chain of the imidazole ring.

22. (New) The method of claim 4, 5 or 6, wherein the imadazole ring is converted to an imadzoline ring.

23. (New) The method of claim 4, 5 or 6 wherein the activation of the imidazoline receptor results in release of arachidonic acid from said cell.

24. (New) The method of claim 4, 5 or 6 wherein the acitvation of the imidazoline receptor results in release of insulin from said cell.

25. (New) The method of claim 4, 5 or 6 wherein the activation of the imidazoline receptor results in release of catecholamines from said cell.

### R E M A R K S

Claims 6-8 are pending in the application. The pending claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first and second paragraph and under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicants have amended claims 4-6 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the